



Everyone is out of the FEMA trailers as of this week, though some few have just moved into Lions Club trailers for the time being. The trailers are being readied to be removed from Vernonia and with their removal, another chapter is closed on the Flood of 2007 story.

50 Years Ago This Month

The October 22, 1959, issue of the *Vernonia Eagle* included the following news story on the front page:

Next Monday, October 26, legal voters in the Mist, Birkenfeld and Vernonia school districts will have the opportunity to register their approval or disapproval of the school district reorganization plan as presented by the county reorganization board. This vote culminates a long series of studies, hearings and planning sessions to carry out the reorganization law as passed by the state legislature in 1957.

first step in the plan was the appointment of a county reorganization board with members from all districts in the county. This board elected from its membership a chairman, Glen Hawkins of Vernonia. The board then made a study of the county and mapped plans for reorganization in which districts suitably located would be combined into large districts for the purpose of more efficient administration. Purpose back of the reorganization plan is to better provide a maximum of education

for all children in grades one through 12 in the most efficient way. It is expected to allow a better coordination of teaching and permit the use of more specialists in the various fields.

Because of the natural geographical location of the Mist, Birkenfeld and Vernonia districts and because they already are combined in the union high school district, they fell into a natural reorganization area. In order to better adjust boundaries, some adjustment is to be made with the Clatskanie and Scappoose districts where they join these three.

The reorganization plan proposes to bring the Mist, Birkenfeld, Vernonia district 47 joint and Vernonia union high school all into one large district. If approved, this unified district would be divided by the county board into seven zones according to population. One director would be elected from each of these seven zones to form the board for the administration of the new district. With their election, all existing boards in the area would go out of existence.

This plan has been presented by

the county reorganization board in hearings held in each of the three existing districts. Sentiment in all of them was favorable. The plan was then presented to the state board of education and it in turn again called hearing in each of the districts and they also found the sentiment favorable.

Following those hearings, the plan was presented to the state board for acceptance and as a final step, it is now being submitted to the vote of the people.

If the vote Monday is favorable, machinery of organizing the new district will be put in motion so as to have it ready to begin functioning in the spring to draw the budget for next year and it will be in operation for the 1960-61 school year.

Please see page 14

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



It's cool, lads and lassies – have to put on my long johns to walk Shadow in the mornings.

Things are going hmmm with my dial. Still not running smoothly. Me and my rolling veins. Grrrr. I still feel good, most of the time.

Do you know that "let down feeling" you had a while back? Well, it will always be there for you to fall back on if you allow yourself the time to dwell on it, but look through the fog, mist, rain, wind and whatever else is holding you back from having a nice day – drop by the Senior Center and Vernonia Cares and say "Howdy." You might just make someone else's day.

The perks of living 'in' the city. Plan for extra time to get where you have to go: 1) Stop & Go; 2) A place to park; 3) Don't get stepped on or pushed over strolling down the isles; 4) Stand in line for checkout. All I needed was a dozen eggs and a can of pop. Then you have to make it back home. Oh well, what else is there to do?

Lots – if there is time left in the day.

Yes, I miss Tea Time, game time and Wednesdays with the Golden Oldies.

It's Raining.

County dog license rules change

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners approved changes to selected Animal Control Program fees effective October 7.

Dog Licensing and Kennel Licensing fees are unaffected by the changes that were approved by the Board and will remain the same.

Changes to the fees provide a new option to persons wanting to license their dog. The County will now allow dog owners to purchase a one, two or three year dog license. Those choosing the three year licensing option will receive a five

dollar reduction in the fee for the third year.

The Animal Control Program is supported by fees for dog and kennel licenses and the services it provides. Fees for certain services provided by the Animal Control Program were increased to reflect the increased costs of providing existing Animal Control services.

The new fees may be viewed at the Columbia County Animal Control website at: <http://www.co.columbia.or.us/animalcontrol/>

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